

CLAIMS

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:
a plurality of image forming portions, each
image forming portion having a photosensitive member
5 and a developing device for developing an
electrostatic image on said photosensitive member
with toner; and

an exposure unit disposed beneath the image
forming portions for exposing the plurality of
10 photosensitive members, said exposure unit having a
frame member that accommodates an optical member,
wherein said frame member includes an upper
frame portion opposed to the image forming portions,
the upper frame portion having a plurality of
15 recessed portions corresponding to the image forming
portions respectively.

2. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the image forming portions are
20 arranged along an oblique direction, and the upper
frame portion is inclined substantially along the
direction along which the image forming portions are
arranged.

25 3. An image forming apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the upper frame portion has a
plurality of windows provided in positions different

from the recessed portions, for transmitting image light beams used for exposure of the photosensitive members.

- 5 4. An image forming apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a cover for preventing toner from falling onto the windows.